

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2412

Introduced by Assembly Member Swanson

February 24, 2012

An act to amend Section 44274 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to air pollution.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2412, as introduced, Swanson. Air Quality Improvement Program.

Existing law establishes the Air Quality Improvement Program, administered by the State Air Resources Board, to fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, air quality improvement projects related to fuel and vehicle technologies.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to that provision.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 44274 of the Health and Safety Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 44274. (a) The Air Quality Improvement Program is hereby
- 4 created. The program shall be administered by the state board, in
- 5 consultation with the districts. The state board shall develop
- 6 guidelines to implement the program. Prior to the adoption of the
- 7 guidelines, the state board shall hold at least one public hearing.
- 8 In addition, the state board shall hold at least three public
- 9 workshops with at least one workshop in northern California, one

1 in the central valley, and one in southern California. The purpose
2 of the program shall be to fund, upon appropriation by the
3 Legislature, air quality improvement projects relating to fuel and
4 vehicle technologies. The primary purpose of the program shall
5 be to fund projects to reduce criteria air pollutants, improve air
6 quality, and provide funding for research to determine and improve
7 the air quality impacts of alternative transportation fuels and
8 vehicles, vessels, and equipment technologies.

9 (b) Projects proposed for funding pursuant to subdivision (a)
10 shall be evaluated based on their proposed or potential reduction
11 of criteria or toxic air pollutants, cost-effectiveness, contribution
12 to regional air quality improvement, and ability to promote the use
13 of clean alternative fuels and vehicle technologies as determined
14 by the state board, in coordination with the commission.

15 (c) The program shall be limited to competitive grants, revolving
16 loans, loan guarantees, loans, and other appropriate funding
17 measures that further the purposes of the program. Projects to be
18 funded shall include only the following:

19 (1) On- and off-road equipment projects that are cost effective.

20 (2) Projects that provide mitigation for off-road gasoline exhaust
21 and evaporative emissions.

22 (3) Projects that provide research to determine the air quality
23 impacts of alternative fuels and projects that study the life-cycle
24 impacts of alternative fuels and conventional fuels, the emissions
25 of biofuel and advanced reformulated gasoline blends, and air
26 pollution improvements and control technologies for use with
27 alternative fuels and vehicles.

28 (4) Projects that augment the University of California's
29 agricultural experiment station and cooperative extension programs
30 for research to increase sustainable biofuels production and
31 improve the collection of biomass feedstock.

32 (5) Incentives for small off-road equipment replacement to
33 encourage consumers to replace internal combustion engine lawn
34 and garden equipment.

35 (6) Incentives for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and
36 equipment mitigation, including all of the following:

37 (A) Lower emission schoolbus programs.

38 (B) Electric, hybrid, and plug-in hybrid on- and off-road
39 medium- and heavy-duty equipment.

1 (C) Regional air quality improvement and attainment programs
2 implemented by the state or districts in the most impacted regions
3 of the state.

4 (7) Workforce training initiatives related to advanced energy
5 technology designed to reduce air pollution, including
6 state-of-the-art equipment and goods, and new processes and
7 systems. Workforce training initiatives funded shall be broad-based
8 partnerships that leverage other public and private job training
9 programs and resources. These partnerships may include, though
10 are not limited to, employers, labor unions, labor-management
11 partnerships, community organizations, workforce investment
12 boards, postsecondary education providers including community
13 colleges, and economic development agencies.

14 (8) Incentives to identify and reduce emissions from high
15 emitting light-duty vehicles.

16 (d) (1) Beginning January 1, 2011, the state board shall submit
17 to the Legislature a biennial report to evaluate the implementation
18 of the Air Quality Improvement Program established pursuant to
19 this chapter.

20 (2) The report shall include all of the following:

21 (A) A list of projects funded by the Air Quality Improvement
22 Account.

23 (B) The expected benefits of the projects in promoting clean,
24 alternative fuels and vehicle technologies.

25 (C) Improvement in air quality and public health, greenhouse
26 gas emissions reductions, and the progress made toward achieving
27 these benefits.

28 (D) The impact of the projects in making progress toward
29 attainment of state and federal air quality standards.

30 (E) Recommendations for future actions.

31 (3) The state board may include the information required to be
32 reported pursuant to paragraph (1) in an existing report to the
33 Legislature as the state board deems appropriate.